

FAQs – Professional Certificate in Conservative Management of Pelvic Organ Prolapse

How many hours are expected of me each week?

The Certificate contains two courses run one after the other (with a short break in between). Each course runs for 14 weeks. There are approximately 6 weeks of self-directed learning content which consist of lectures, readings, and other activities (including videos, quizzes, and interactive tasks). There are approximately 6 weeks of online discussions where you will engage in small group discussions on different topics. There are also 2 weeks dedicated to you writing your online assignment. It is estimated that each week will require around 10 hours of your time (depending on your prior learning and experience).

What are the contingency plans for COVID?

Border closures as a result of COVID-19 outbreaks may impact our ability to run the practical workshop weekend. If you are required to quarantine in either direction of travel to attend the practical workshop weekend, you will not be required to attend. You will not fail the course. We will always try to make alternative arrangements. Where this is not possible, you may need to defer your attendance at the practical workshop weekend until the following year. If this is the case, you will not need to re-submit any assessments nor will you be required to pay any additional fees. If you have any concerns, please contact the Course Coordinator.

What is required of me for peer-examination?

These courses involve practical classes using peer physical examination (PPE). This means that course participants act as patients for each other when learning vaginal palpation techniques for assessment and management. This includes pelvic floor assessment and treatment practical sessions, receiving internal (per vaginum) examinations, and applications of therapies applied vaginally.

PPE provides you with the benefit of personal insight into the same assessments and treatments experienced by patients, ultimately enhancing your ability to ensure the comfort and dignity of a patient in a real-life clinical setting.

PPE sessions are conducted in a professional manner using curtained treatment cubicles or separate rooms for privacy, and all course participants and tutors are registered physiotherapists with experience in per vaginum examinations.

It is your personal decision without prejudice whether you make yourself available for PPE in the course. We provide an information sheet and request written consent for those undertaking PPE. It is very important that your consent for PPE is provided without coercion. Where you don't agree to participate in PPE, alternate arrangements can be made.

I am studying a Masters/Post Graduate Certificate, can I use this course as credit for my other studies?

You will need to seek confirmation of credit from the institution you are studying at.

The University of Melbourne currently offers credit for two electives within the Masters of Physiotherapy (Pelvic Health) degree at the completion of this Professional Certificate in Conservative Management of Pelvic Organ Prolapse.

Do I need to pay for the entire Certificate up front?

No, you can pay for each course within the Certificate separately, a few weeks prior to the course starting. See the application form for the cost of each course. You are able to manage your payments via our Pay UniSA payment portal at <https://pay.unisa.edu.au/home/menu>.